

L 3 p 1 pneu 46
Acers
arrived in North
1870?

1247
50
67

3.11.47

Dear Miss Kitching,

In reply to your letter of 24th
ultimo, I am afraid I am rather
hazy about the whole thing, but will
tell you all I am definite about.
My Aunt (Jane Smith) and Miss
^(Wrens, Miss, Excl) Aikens (spelling doubtful) set up a
private school at Alton, Hants, after
leaving College and Miss Mason
stayed with them while she was
preparing her Geography Book. I
have vivid memories of my aunt's
admiration of her courage as she
was ill at the time and was working
on her book whilst lying on the sofa.

1950 13 p 2 pneu 46
80
1870

my aunt was trained at Whitelands College, about 80 years ago and I had the impression that a friendship was formed there, the three being at college together (I may be incorrect here).

Had I been interested in P.N.E.U. during my aunt's lifetime, I should probably have been much more helpful than now. I hope, however, I have been of some little use to you in your big and devoted undertaking.

Yours sincerely,
Dennis Smart.

The Close House
 Henbury
 Bristol
 18th Oct.

Dear Miss Whitching,

I intended putting
 a message on my husband's
 letter to send my good wishes
 for your book, but he says
 you can't write on that sort
 of paper!.

I remember very vividly
 talking to my husband's
 Aunt Jane about Miss Mason
 having stayed with her and
 Miss (Aiken?) while writing her
 Acens

i 4 p 2 p neu 46

geography book. Miss Mason
was at that time not well &
came home very tired after her
country walks. She used to lie
on a little sofa (you know the
kind with a head piece & no arms)
to write up her notes. She
must have been a brave spirit,

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

Winifred H Smart

23 p 2 p nca 46
RSC
The Close House,
Henbury,
Bristol.

October 19th. 1949.

Dear Miss Kitching,

Your letter of 17th inst. has given me a thrill in that it was more probably my mother who started the friendship between Miss Mason and my Aunt Jane Smith who was very definitely a student at the Whitelands Training College and was there granted her Certificate. This was before my mother went to College.

My mother went to the Home and Colonial College but her Certificate is not now apparently in existence though I have turned up the attached letters which should fix the date of her entry into College as 1870. If, therefore you have the date of Miss Mason's entry we shall establish the cue or otherwise. I have also found this old photograph of my mother's year; it shows her very clearly and also her close friend Mrs Gardiner (whose maiden name I do not remember and who died many years ago.) I am afraid the photograph will not lend itself very well to magnification but it is just possible that you may be able to recognise Miss Mason (if there !).

On leaving College my mother became Headmistress of the Shepton Mallett Schools in Somerset and in 1875 had accepted the Headship of the Basingstoke School in Hants where she was in lodgings which would account for Miss Mason staying at my Aunt's ~~coottage~~ ^{Private School} at Alton instead of with my mother.

With reference to myself, all is going well with this "All Standard School" though we are to be "Ploughed under" in the modern Secondary Modern and Primary grouping and our most picturesque village is becoming a part of the extended TOWN. I shall not see much of this as I retire next August and my wife and I have already booked our berth for a year's trip to Australia to visit relations.

We trust you are enjoying your very nobly earned retirement and wish you success and happiness in your book on the life of your very dear friend, our great CHARLOTTE MASON.

Yours sincerely,

Kenia Smith

P.T.O.

i 5 p 2 pncu 46

P.S.

My Aunt's Private School at Alton apparently was not a great success as she abandoned it to make use of her Board of Education Certificate at Bromham, Wilts-----this by the way to show that Whitelands did grant Teaching Certificates prior to 1870 at least !

.O.T.S.

hand - 10/11

8 Priory Close
Worthing.

Dear Miss Kitching

I am returning with very
many thanks C. S. Lewis'

Transposition and other addresses

I hope I have not kept it too
long, but I have not had much
time for reading, and I wanted to
read parts of it at least twice.
Like you, I like best "The
Weight of Glory."

I have "looked up" in a

recent book on Worthing, about
the Davison School. It was as
I thought. The Rev. William Davison

was "Chaplain" to the Chapel of
Ease to Broadwater Church,
in fact he was its first Chaplain.
This Chapel of Ease was Worthing's
first Church and was opened in
1812. Broadwater is the mother

- Church of Worthing parish being
originally a unit or so outside
the town. It is very ancient & a
beautiful building.

The Chapel of Ease later became
a separate Church, & was
known as "St Paul's". Its Chaplain
became a Vicar.

The Rev. Wm Davison had
opened the first church elementary
school in England. He had
"severed a barn and collected
~~the~~ boys & girls within its
walls, and imparted to them the
rudiments of the Christian faith
and the three R's."

"On his death, in recognition
of his services, a school was
built by his many admirers
and named after him." This
school still stands -- and there
is always been competition to be
enrolled as one of its scholars."

This quotation is from an article
by the Rev. Canon E. W. D. Pentfold
who died ~~that~~^{last} year, & was a curate
at St Paul's. when young.

I think Miss Mason must have been Head of the original school though - when she knew it, it was no longer in a barn. The build-up was not a very good one though - but it still stands & is used for meetings.

"Davison's" which she evidently helped to found, was a girl's school ever since I can remember it, so the other mixed school evidently ceased to exist. I hope you had a very happy Christmas.

With New Year greetings
Yours sincerely
Winifred Gillespie.

i 7 pncu 46

LOW NOOK.
The Parents' Union School,
Ambleside.
Westmorland.

January 12th, 1950.

Dear Miss Gillespie,

Thank you gratefully for your most helpful letter and for the great trouble you have taken to give me information about the Davison School. This will help me as a kind of bridge to the various odd notes that I have. Mr. Davison must have been succeeded by Mr. William Read as 'Chaplin' to whom Miss Mason went to continue her studies in the theory of education as she was too frail to live in London, and with whom she gained her experience in the school attached to the Chapel of Ease of which Miss Read was the manager. I have a copy of the sermon preached by the Rev. J. Brooke Patrick who was curate of the Chapel of Ease, Worthing, and who preached the memorial sermon to Miss Read in January 1867 - she died before her father. Miss Mason wrote ~~of~~ Miss Read with the greatest affection and respect, so this would all have happened I expect before the name 'St. Paul's' was used. I have two undated letters written by Miss Mason about 1864. She had evidently been asked to sketch out a plan giving the aim, scope and cost of a mixed school, and I am wondering very much if this could have been an answer to someone helping to found the Davison school in memory of Mr. Davison. You know that rather grasping proverb, 'Much would have more' this is only rather a greedy reminder that if you should ever come across any further information on the subject I should be more than grateful.

~~With love and~~ with all good wishes for the new year,

Yours sincerely,

Copy.

used

i 8 p 1 p n e u 46

56, Ashdown Road,
Worthing.

17. XII. 50

Dear Miss Kitching.

I have received from Miss
Bonner-Taylor your letter, and have made
enquiries about the information you require,
but as the old log books are not at
school, and the correspondent, Col. Randolph
has been indisposed, I have been unable
to obtain it, but hope to do so in the
near future.

An Aunt of mine who is now
80, attended the school when she was
9, & there were then ~~no~~ Infants &
Girls' departments. Considering the population
of Worthing at the dates required I think

the 200 would be girls - infants together.

Strangely enough, when the present head of Davison taught in her first school at Bradford, it was one working out the Charlotte Mason schemes.

I am sorry not to be more helpful.

Yours truly,

L. J. Dunn.

29 p 1 pncu 46



WORTHING COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION

DAVISON GIRLS' SECONDARY SCHOOL,
WORTHING.

HEAD MISTRESS:
MISS N. A. TATE

TELEPHONE 3835

Jan 31st 195...

Dear Madam,

I feel very guilty that I
have not replied to your letter earlier.

I worked for the first
seven years of my teaching life
after leaving College. 1921 - 1928.
in a Girls' All Standard School,
in which the P.N.G.V. Method was
very flourishing under a Head-
mistress of the name of Miss Abbs.
She herself was a great educationist
but unfortunately she retired
when the school was reorganised
& became a Senior Girls' School
under the Hadon Scheme & so.

the P.N.E.U. Method came to an end.

Miss Ambler had already retired when I began my teaching career. & so had Mr. Dodd M.A. I remember Mrs. Stein that's name being mentioned to me long. Miss Abbs. & I should imagine that as the outcome of the meeting held at Highfield mentioned in your letter the method was taken up not only by Miss Ambler but also by Miss Abbs. I am under the impression that six Bradford Schools were asked to give it a trial. and Miss Abbs. retained the method longer than any other school. - I personally was very happy working under that method

You will also be interested to know that I mentioned to the



WORTHING COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION

DAVISON GIRLS' SECONDARY SCHOOL,
WORTHING.

HEAD MISTRESS:
MISS N. A. TATE

TELEPHONE 3835

.....195...

Borough Education Officer your letter she produced from the Strong Room the Log Book that Miss Charlotte Mason wrote when she was Head of the School. It is a very interesting document and one of the oldest Log Books in the country. Amazingly enough the Ministry has just issued a circular to Local Authorities asking them to preserve Log Books from 1860 onwards as they are so scarce & have such little ^{early} history of the schools. How times have changed!

Please once again accept my sincere apologies for my tardiness in writing

Yours sincerely,
N. A. Tate.